away to the neighbouring schools at Kundara and Adoor. Close to the school were situated two Malayalam schools which contained a large number of boys and they did not avail themselves of English education because, being poor, they had to discontinue their studies after the Third Form. As regards funds, the people were prepared to meet the expenditure necessary for constructing any additional building required. Kottarakara being a central place, if the standard be raised, it would benefit the people of the Pathanapuram and Kunnathur taluks also. He requested that the Government might redress their grievances by at least opening the Fourth Form before the coming school year.

Dewan's reply.—The Director of Public Instruction will be asked to report on the Member's representation.

132. Raising the standard of the Lower Grade English School for Girls at Chengannur.

Mr. Chacko Chacko (Member, Chengannur Taluk) said that his request was an old one. When the people of the taluk met the Dewan last, they were told that their prayer would be favourably considered on condition that the people of Chengannur would put up a temporary shed on the site pointed out for the location of the school-house. The site had not till then been shown to them, though they were ready with the materials. The Member then explained the hardships they were undergoing in having either to send their grown-up girls to the Boys' school or send them to other places. Between those two courses they preferred the first alternative and 18 girls between the ages of 14 and 18 were attending the Boys' school now, which was not desirable. The Member, therefore, prayed that the Lower Grade English school for girls be raised to the Higher Grade as early as possible.

Dewan's reply.—A report from the Director of Public Instruction will be called for.

133. Educational needs, with special reference to English Education in the Shertalay taluk.

Mr. R. Sankaranarayana Menon (Member, Shertalay Taluk) made the following suggestions:—

(1) The course of study for the Vernacular School Leaving Examination should be reduced from 7 to 6 years.

(2) The subjects in which the people of the State were interested and which they ought to know should receive greater attention in the school curriculam.

(3) Besides English being made a subject of compulsory study, the Sixth Class Examination and the text-books for lower classes should not aim at excessive severity.

(4) There should be two distinct courses of study in Vernacular schools, one for attaining a high standard of efficiency in the Vernacular and the other to serve as a service qualification.

(5) Those pupils from the Vernacular schools who want to continue their English studies should be permitted to join the Third Form of an English school (teaching of English in the Vernacular schools being so regulated) and classes below Form III in English schools should be abolished.

(6) At present several Vernacular books were being forced on pupils as text-books, but not a single book was being taught *in full*. Such a step should be stopped and the number of books should be reduced to the absolute minimum.

(7) It was desirable to encourage and promote the Vernacular of the State by ordering it to be used as the medium of communication in all departments.

(8) Greater importance and value should be given to the Vernacular examination.

(9) Such a course of physical culture should be introduced as would improve the health of the pupils.

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